

**Community Conservation Assistance Program Advisory Committee Meeting  
July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011: Archdale Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**



**Attendees:** Bonnie Bendell (DCM), Jeff Bruton (DWR), Robert Patterson (DWQ), Alaina Bloodworth (NRCS), Mike Sugg (NRCS), Alan Moore (Division of Forest Resources), Bill Hart (NCASWCD), Gray Hauser (DLR), Tom Hill (DSWC), Tim Kennedy (DSWC), Scott Melvin (DSWC), Shelly Baird (DSWC), Julie Henshaw (DSWC)

**Teleconference:** Mike Doxey (DEA), Hunter Freeman (Withers & Ravenel)

**I. Introductions**

Julie Henshaw opened the meeting and introductions were made by attendees.

**II. Division Transfer Update**

The Division of Soil and Water Conservation was transferred from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) on July 1, 2011. Both departments support CCAP, and the new location should not impact the program. The Soil and Water Conservation Commission still administers cost share programs according to adopted rules and policies. Julie Henshaw displayed the division's new webpage (<http://www.ncagr.gov/sw/>), and reviewed the division's placement in NCDA&CS organizational structure.

**III. Review and Approval of April 19, 2011 Minutes**

By consensus, the minutes of the April meeting were approved.

**IV. PY 2011 Program Update**

Shelly Baird presented a CCAP update, including current funding status and grant updates. As reported at the April meeting, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) Phase I grant was successfully closed out. Remaining CWMTF Phase II grant funds were re-allocated to 12 interested Districts to implement these funds by December 31, 2011. The current 319 grant will expire in September 2011. New grant funding was received from the Attorney General's Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG) Program in the amount of \$125,000. Decisions are expected this fall for the new Phase III CWMTF grant proposal in the amount of \$900,000. PY2012 funding requests equaled over \$2 million from 70 districts. State appropriations were received in the amount of \$136,937. Once 5% was withheld, technical assistance funds were allocated to Dare and New Hanover, and any unencumbered and cancelled funds were added, the total State appropriated CCAP funds equaled \$211,563. Photos were shown from CCAP

projects throughout the state, including the first CCAP permeable pavement project in Jones County. To date, over \$1.4 million has been expended on BMP installations, treating over 500 acres of impervious area. Ms. Baird reported the successful completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the Greater Triangle Stewardship Development Awards Program. 2011 winners and banquet information can be found at [www.trianglestewardship.org](http://www.trianglestewardship.org).

#### **V. NCASWCD Update**

Bill Hart presented information regarding the NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD). The Association supported the transfer of the division to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. All standing committee chairs are new this year, and Mr. Hart will continue to serve as the Association's representative on the Advisory Committee. A subcommittee of the Community Conservation Committee will be working on conservation easement education, and they will be encouraging districts to obtain endowments when accepting conservation easements. The Community Conservation Award, in memory of Jim Stephenson, will be awarded this year.

#### **VI. PY2012 Average Cost List**

The Advisory Committee approved the following recommended changes to the PY2012 average cost list. These changes reflect additions and revisions based on district and partner experience and input. Please see Appendix A for the PY2012 Cost List. Approved changes included:

- Language was added to the compost blanket and compost sock components to clarify that the cost includes mulch and seed.
- Filter cloth – pins were removed as a component of diversions and swales.
- The unit of cost was corrected to SqYd (from SqFt) for the following components of diversions and swales: turn reinforced matting and temporary liners.

#### **VII. Structural Stormwater Conveyance**

A draft BMP standard was presented for this proposed practice, which includes various techniques to divert runoff from paved surfaces where a vegetated diversion is not feasible. Please see Appendix B for more information and examples. Areas of discussion included cost, design approval, sizing and more. The committee recommended the cost to be 75% of actual cost not to exceed \$5,000. Further recommendations included the requirement for this BMP to be designed by a Professional Engineer (PE). Significant discussion was had regarding sizing guidance and what volume of runoff should determine the practice size. The Committee approved the BMP standard based on the Engineer workgroup's decision on sizing guidance. Workgroup representatives included: Hunter Freeman, Robert Patterson, Gray Hauser, Tim Kennedy and Tom Hill. See Appendix B for the final version.

#### **VIII. Approval Process for Professional Engineers Designs**

Julie Henshaw presented the following proposed policy. Private professional engineers are allowed to design BMPs for Cost Share Programs. The Division of Soil and Water Conservation engineers will review sealed designs from private engineers to ensure the design meets the required program standards prior to construction. After completing the review, the Division

engineer will provide written documentation on whether the practice, as designed, meets the required program standards to the local soil and water conservation district. The private engineer/firm will be responsible for construction oversight and certifying the installed practice as built.

**IX. Program Policies Discussion**

Shelly Baird introduced the following two topics for discussion. Both topics will be included in the next meeting agenda.

- A. Eligibility of sites based on the release from sediment and erosion control plan
- B. Further clarification on program eligibility based on the definition of agriculture

**Next Meeting: Nov. 16, 2011 (10am – noon) 5<sup>th</sup> floor conference room, Archdale building**